

storing the generated signals as total cumulative length information in a computer memory; and

retrieving the total cumulative length information to determine total cumulative length of the cushioning products produced by the cushioning conversion machine during the period of time;

wherein the cushioning conversion machine includes a forming assembly having forming components which contact and form the sheet stock material and a feed assembly which feeds the stock material through the forming assembly; and

wherein the monitoring step includes tracking passage of the stock material at a point downstream of the forming assembly.

21. (New) A method of determining the total length of dunnage products produced by a dunnage conversion machine during a period of time, said method comprising the acts of:

converting stock material into a plurality of three-dimensional dunnage products during the period of time in a dunnage conversion machine;

monitoring the cumulative length of dunnage products produced by the dunnage conversion machine during the conversion of the stock material into each of the cushioning products;

storing in a computer memory information regarding the cumulative length of dunnage products produced by the dunnage conversion machine during the period of time;

retrieving the stored cumulative length information, the retrieved cumulative length information providing an indication of the cumulative length of dunnage products produced by the dunnage conversion machine during the period of time.

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 6-21 are pending the present application. The title and abstract have also been amended to correspond more closely to the invention to which the claims are directed.

The present claims have relation to the claims of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/475,623, now abandoned.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0988, our Order No. RANPP0170USA.

Respectfully submitted,
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